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X Dirksen
E. MC CARTHY

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MCCONE (TOPS 27, CHANGING SLUG)

WASHINGTON (AP)—SEN. DIRKSEN DISPUTED TODAY THE CONTENTION OF SEN. MCCARTHY THAT JOHN A. MCCONE MAY LACK QUALIFICATIONS TO HEAD THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

DIRKSEN, THE SENATE GOP LEADER, SAID HE BELIEVES MCCONE, A REPUBLICAN PICKED BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY TO SUGGEST ALLEN DULLES AS CIA HEAD, MEASURES UP TO THE JOB.

MCCARTHY SAID IN AN EARLIER INTERVIEW THAT "THERE IS NOTHING IN PARTICULAR TO RECOMMEND MR. MCCONE AS DIRECTOR OF THE CIA." THE MINNESOTA SENATOR ADDED HE DOESN'T KNOW IF MCCONE MEETS A HALF DOZEN QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POST. HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT THE QUALIFICATIONS ARE.

DIRKSEN SAID HE DOESN'T KNOW JUST WHAT MCCARTHY HAS IN MIND. BUT HE ADDED:

"IF SOUND JUDGMENT AND BROAD EXPERIENCE IN ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS QUALIFIES AN APPOINTEE, THEN JOHN MCCONE MEASURES UP. HIS SERVICES IN THE PAST HAVE MERITED THE CONFIDENCE AND APPROVAL OF EVERYONE WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH HIS WORK."

DIRKSEN SAID HE THINKS THERE WILL BE ALMOST SOLID SUPPORT FOR MCCONE WHEN HIS NOMINATION COMES BEFORE A SENATE COMMITTEE NEXT YEAR. MCCONE WAS GIVEN A RECESS APPOINTMENT BY KENNEDY.

MCCARTHY SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A SERIES OF QUESTIONS PUT TO MCCONE WHEN THE NOMINATION IS CONSIDERED.

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